

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 148781  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00  
/043 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:DPETTERSON:LA

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

AF:WEDMONDSON

AF:TSEELYE

:PHABIB

S/S:O TGMLTIN

-----088898 252019Z /70

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 148781

LONDON FOR SEITZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, US

SUBJECT:BRITISH PROPOSE CONSULTATION GROUP TRAVEL TO  
SALISBURY

REF: LUSAKA 1795

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH LOW THAT OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND FRONT LINE STATES COULD BE DAMAGED, PERHAPS SERIOUSLY, IF THE CONSULTATION GROUP WERE TO PROCEED TO SALISBURY BEFORE MEETING WITH NKOMO AND RECEIVING THE PFS PROPOSALS ON A CONSTITUTION AND TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 148781

2. ACCORDINGLY REQUEST SEITZ GET IN TOUCH WITH GRAHAM AND EXPRESS OUR CONCERN THAT BRITISH PROPOSAL ON CG TRAVEL IS CONTRARY TO UNDERSTANDING WE HAD WITH THE HMG REGARDING THE DESIRABILITY OF SEEING NKOMO BEFORE GOING TO SALISBURY. IN ELABORATING, YOU SHOULD DRAW ON THE POINTS LOW MADE -N PARAGRAPH FIVE OF REFTEL AND SUBSTANCE OF

HIS RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH FIVE. YOU COULD ADD THAT WE BELIEVE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS WOULD BE COMPLICATED AND EXTENDED BY TALKING TO SMITH ABOUT CONSTITUTION WITHOUT HAVING ANY WAY OF KNOWING HOW SMITH WILL REACT TO PF PROPOSALS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPING FINAL PACKAGE.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL INFORM UK EMBASSY HERE OF OUR CONCERN THAT BRITISH IDEA ON CG TRAVEL IS CONTRARY TO OUR PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING, AND STATE THAT WE SEE STRONG DIS-ADVANTAGES IN GOING TO SMITH WITHOUT HAVING MET FIRST WITH NKOMO.

4. FYI SECRETARY VANCE AND DR. OWEN AGREED IN PARIS THAT CONSULTATIVE GROUP SHOULD RESUME THEIR SOUNDINGS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA JULY 6 AND REPORT BACK, BUT THERE WAS NO INDICATION THEN THAT THEY SHOULD START WITH RHODESIANS RATHER THAN PATRIOTIC FRONT, AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.

VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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